REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This reply is responsive to an office action mailed on February 20, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 1-48 are respectfully requested.

Present Status of the Patent Application

Claims 1-48 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1-48 have been rejected. Claim 1, 17, and 33 has been amended. The amendments to the claims were made to render them more clear and definite and to emphasize the patentable novelty thereof. There is no intent to surrender equivalence.

Specification

Applicant has modified the abstract and paragraphs [0001], [0003], and [0026] as requested by the Examiner.

Response to Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-3, 15-19, 31-35, 47, and 48 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 18 of U.S. Patent No. 7,114,647. Applicant is concurrently submitting a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) to overcome this provisional rejection based on nonstatutory double patenting. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 17-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended

these claims to include structure and functional relationships. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-9, 11, 12, 15-25, 27, 28, 31-41, 43, 44, 47, and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Chuang (US Pat. No. 5,987,421). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), the cited reference must disclose all elements/features/steps of the claim. See, e.g., *E.I. du Pont Nemours & Co. v. Phillips Petroleum Co.*, 849 F.2d 1430, 7 USPQ2d 1129 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Chuang discloses the use of a group of 2-way pagers (GID devices) carried by guests as they move through a theme park. The pagers allow guests to register for positions within a line for rides, attractions, and restaurants. The pagers also allow the guests to search for other members of their party having a pager located within the theme park. The pagers send request information to Identification Signal Searching Units (ISSU) of a Central Control System (CCS) installed throughout the park for determining the location of particular persons. The CCS determines the location and direction of a desired person relative to the requesting person. Once located, a message is sent to the requesting two-way pager and describes the distance and the direction of the desired person relative to the requesting person.

Thus, the location of the desired person must first be determined by means of the CCS. That is accomplished by a search technique as stated in Column 11, lines 52-59 of Chuang:

> "Should a guest wish to locate another guest from his group, he simply selects the proper designation on his GID device.

> A wireless signal is transmitted from the GID device and is received by at least the nearest ISSU. The ISSU transmits the search signal in an attempt to locate the targeted GID device. If the GID device is found, its location and direction is relayed back to the ISSU which then forwards the Information to the searching GID Device. In the event that the GID Device is not found, the search signal is relayed to the CCS via the ISSU. The CCS forwards the search signal to all ISSUs thus effectively blanketing the park. Once the targeted GID Device is located, its location and direction is relayed back to the ISSU which sent the original search signal via the CCS."

In sharp contrast to Chuang, the techniques of the disclosed embodiment of the invention relate to using stations and antennas distributed throughout the confined area to track and view the location of guests, and to record and update attraction reservation information without the need for the guest carrying expensive 2-way pagers throughout the confined area. Also, a map of the location of the guest can be conveniently displayed on any of these stations. Chuang on the other hand teaches using 2-way pagers which do not track guests and update attraction reservation information.

Independent Claim 1

Independent claim 1, as amended, is allowable for at least the reason that Chuang does not disclose, teach, or suggest any of the following:

1) "receiving personal identification information of a guest into at least one of a set of stations distributed throughout the confined area from a device worn by the guest"

2) "updating the stored reservation information at any one of the stations distributed throughout the confined area"

3) "continuously tracking the guest's location as he or she passes along a path throughout the confined area by using antennas strategically placed throughout the confined area", and

4) "locating and viewing the location of the guest on a map displayed on one of the stations in response to the stored tracking information"

1) "receiving personal identification information of a guest into at least one of a set of stations distributed throughout the confined area from a device worn by the guest"

Chuang does not disclose "receiving personal identification information of a guest into at least one of a set of stations distributed throughout the confined area from a device worn by the guest." Chuang does not disclose any stations distributed throughout the park that receive information from a device worn by the guest. Therefore, Chuang does not disclose "receiving personal identification information of a guest into at least one of a set of stations distributed throughout the confined area from a device worn by the guest."

2) "updating the stored reservation information at any one of the stations distributed throughout the confined area"

Chuang does not disclose "updating the stored reservation information at any one of the stations distributed throughout the confined area." Chuang does not disclose any way to update the reservation information once it is set. Therefore, Chuang does not disclose "updating the stored reservation information at any one of the stations distributed throughout the confined area."

3) "continuously tracking the guest's location as he or she passes along a path throughout the confined area by using antennas strategically placed throughout the confined area"

Chuang does not disclose "continuously tracking the guest's location as he or she passes along a path throughout the confined area by using antennas strategically placed throughout the confined area." Chuang merely performs searches for the location of the individual 2-way pager carried by another group member, only in response to a request. The search is only conducted on demand, **not** continuously. Once a request is sent from a GID device, a search is conducted first by the nearest ISSU to determine the location of a single guest. This may or may not result in the location of the desired guest. If not, then the search is expanded throughout all of the ISSU units distributed throughout the area. Such a searching operation is time consuming, especially when emergency situations have arisen. Therefore, Chuang does not disclose "continuously tracking the guest's location as he or she passes along a path throughout the confined area by using antennas strategically placed throughout the confined area."

4) "locating and viewing the location of the guest on a map displayed on one of the stations in response to the stored tracking information"

Chuang does not disclose "locating and viewing the location of the guest on a map displayed on one of the stations in response to the stored tracking information." In this regard, Chuang does not disclose "locating and viewing the location of the guest on a map" or "a map displayed on one of the stations." On the other hand, Chuang discloses sending directions to a 2-two pager. Chuang merely discloses providing location information via the text screen of the paging device. (See Col. 12, lines 8-11.) Once the person is located, a message is sent to the two-way pager carried by the person requesting the information. The message provides directions as to the location

of the other guest. The approximate distance from the person being located relative to the person requesting the information is specified in the message. Also, the direction of the person being located relative to the requesting person is then provided as well. This information must then be used by inspecting one of the maps which are distributed throughout the park for display (see Column 12, lines 18 and 19). Therefore, Chuang does not disclose "locating and viewing the location of the guest on a map displayed on one of the stations in response to the stored tracking information."

Accordingly, the rejection is deficient in these areas. Notwithstanding, the undersigned has reviewed the entirety of the Chuang patent and has failed to identify any such teachings anywhere within this reference. Accordingly, the Chuang patent fails to teach or disclose the invention as defined by claim 1, and the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 17

Independent claim 17, as amended, is allowable for at least the reasons as described above regarding claim 1.

Independent Claim 33

Independent claim 33, as amended, is allowable for at least the reasons as described above regarding claim 1.

Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Applicants acknowledge that the subject matter of the various claims in the present application was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made.

Claims 10, 26, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chuang in view of Waytena et al. (US Pat. No. 5,978,770). Since Waytena does not cure the deficiencies of Chuang described above and these claims depend from allowable independent claims 1, 17, or 33; claims 10, 26, and 42 should also be allowable for at least the reasons described above regarding claim 1.

Claims 10, 13, 14, 26, 29, 30, 42, 45, and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chuang in view of McManus et al. (US Pat. Appl. No. 2003/0102956). Since Waytena does not cure the deficiencies of Chuang described above and these claims depend from allowable independent claims 1, 17, or 33; claims 10, 13, 14, 26, 29, 30, 42, 45, and 46 should also be allowable for at least the reasons described above regarding claim 1.

Dependent Claims

Dependent claims 2-16, 18-32, and 34-48 are believed to be allowable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable independent claims 1, 17, and 33, respectively. *In re Fine,* 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

CONCLUSION

The other cited art of record has been reviewed, and it is believed that the claims, as amended, patentably distinguish thereover.

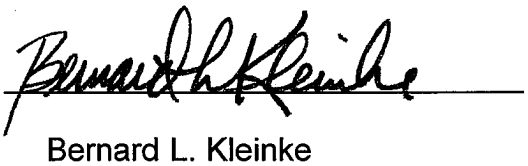
In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that now pending claims 1-48 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion

of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 619-209-3063.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2007

By: 

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